REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, reexamination and further and favorable reconsideration of the subject application in light of the following remarks, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. § 1.112, are respectfully requested.

Status

As is correctly reflected in the Advisory Action, Claims 1 and 6-38 are pending. Claims 18-30 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 6-17, and 31-38 stand rejected.

Summary of Amendments

By the foregoing amendments, independent Claims 1, 36, and 37 were amended to specify that "said at least one enzyme is present in a quantity of 0.05% to 30% by weight with respect to the total composition weight" and that "said at least one ascorbic acid precursor is present in a quantity of 0.01% to 50% by weight with respect to the total composition weight." This language results from incorporating into Claims 1, 36, and 37 the content of concurrently-cancelled, original Claims 14 and 16, respectively. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested and such action is earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any questions relating to this response, or the application in general, it would be greatly appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted, Burns, Doane, Swecker & Mathis, L.L.P.

Registration No. 51,147

Date: May 5, 2004

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